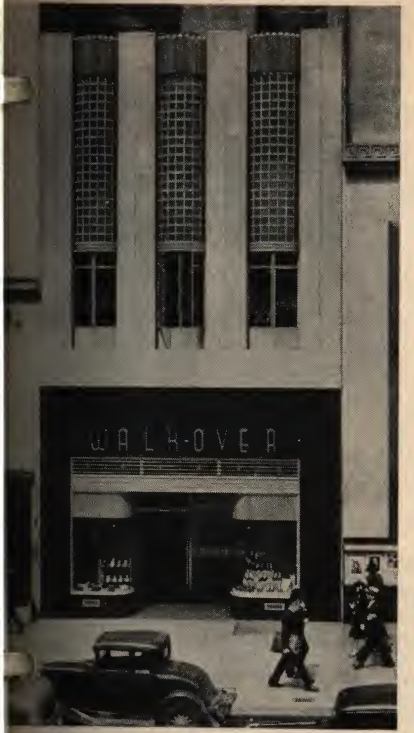
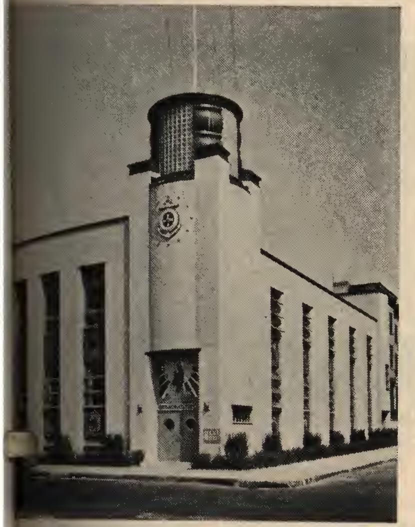
DARK STONES . .

Durable, Economical, Available . . .

from the Alberene Quarries



Virginia Black Serpentine Ashlar front, Walk-Over Shoe Store, Fifth Avenue, New York; Kenneth Norton, Architect.



Seamen's Institute, Brooklyn, N. Y., Henry V. Murphy, Archt. Sand-blasted Black Serpentine spandrels show maritime subjects

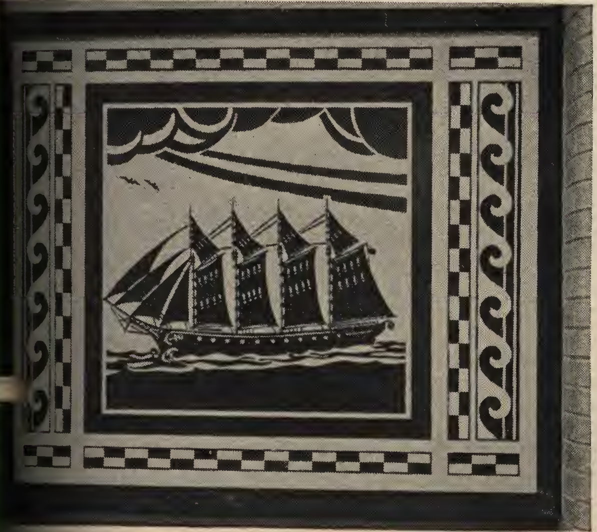
ALBERENE BLACK SERPENTINE takes and retains a high polish and when so polished becomes essentially black with a slight greenish cast. The stone contains practically none of the mineral talc, the principal constituent of regular Alberene soapstone, but a high percentage of the mineral serpentine, with smaller percentages of other related silicate minerals.

Alberene Tremolite, so named because Tremolite is one of its mineral components, also takes and retains a high polish and when so polished its color tone varies from blue-grey to blue-black.

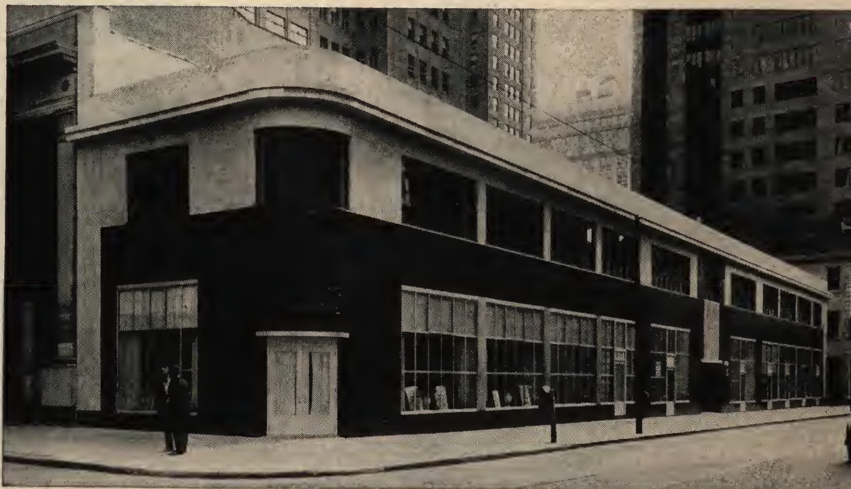
The color range may be extended by variations in surface finish resulting in the following tones—silver gray, blue black, mottled black and black.

In addition a whole field of new possibilities is opened up by means of sand-blasting either directly upon the stone or through screens, etc., to produce a variety of designs. A typical striking installation is portrayed on this page.

Both Serpentine and Tremolite are exceedingly dense and homogeneous in structure and free of stratification (cleavage planes) and have a fine grain. When machine tooled, they hold sharp arrises. They are tough, as distinguished from brittle, and have high resistance to abrasion. Both contain a small percentage of white veining—averaging from three to four veins to the average full size slab (50″ x 78″). These veins are thoroughly sound. Both stones are obtainable in comparatively large sizes free of defects, and at reasonable cost.



Close-up of one of the highly decorative sand-blasted Black Serpentine spandrels, Seamen's Institute, Brooklyn, N. Y.



Flanders Grill, 15th and Walnut Sts., Philadelphia, Pa., Alberene Black Serpentine facade; Tilden, Register & Pepper, Architects; building erected in 1935

In exterior stone, the question of retention of polish is of paramount importance. Calcitic or dolomitic marbles lose their polish in a comparatively short time. The mineral components of Serpentine and Tremolite are all silicates, known for their resistance to chemical attack. There is therefore no appreciable attack on the polished surface. A check up of many installations of ten years and more standing shows no deterioration of polish whatsoever.

This Company has available detailed specifications for polishing these stones. It is recommended that these specifications be adhered to. It is important that no acid be used in polishing.

A few of the many possibilities for the use of these stones are: spandrel paneling, mullions, bulkheads, door and window trim, coping, etc.

Economy of Thin Sections

An important point is that it is possible to cut these stones into relatively thin sections—7/8″, 1¼″ is ordinary. *We urge you to take advantage of this quality and use them thin.* It will save money for the client, and may be of considerable help to the designer—as, for example, in affording greater depth of reveal in spandrel sections.

Abrasive and Other Test Data

Tests show that these dark stones are superior to even the best grades of Alberene Soapstone in most respects. For purposes of comparison, comparable figures with regard to Tennessee Marble and Indiana Limestone are also included below.

TABLE NO. 1

	% 48 hours Absorb.	Abrasive Hardness	Modulus of Rupture	Weight Loss on Chemical Test
Alberene Soapstone	.15	6.0	2207	1.36
Tremolite	.10	25.0	3370	0.47
Black Serpentine	.07	45.0	4275	0.15
Tennessee Marble	.06	20.0	2600	....
Indiana Limestone	2.41–6.68	6.2	540–2020	....

All figures are averages.

Interior Uses

These stones can be put to a great variety of interior uses where a dark, durable material is called for.

A few typical uses:

- Base and border
- Stair strings and risers
- Pilasters and caps
- Window stools
- Flooring
- Fireplace trim (mantel facings, etc.)

Food Bars

Alberene Black Serpentine for Food Bars [counter tops, shelving, facings, aprons] have been supplied to the Navy, and to hospitals and restaurants. It withstands the action of spilled fruit juices, also hard handling and serving. Black Serpentine combines structural quality and decorative features.

Station KYW, National Broadcasting C Bldg., Philadelphia, Pa., Tilden & Pepp Archts.; exterior facing and paneling polished Alberene Black Serpentine

Architects O'Dell & Rowland selected Virginia Tremolite for the remodeling of the Murphy Bldg., Detroit, Mich.

Alberene Tremolite Spandrels, Public School 114, Bronx, N. Y.; Eric Kebbon, Archt.

ERECTION NOTES

Exterior Facings

Spandrel panels are usually set between brick or concrete piers and are generally supported at the bottom by a structural member forming the lintel of the window opening below the spandrel. For panels from ⅞″ to 1¼″ thick, brass wire anchors of #8 gauge are used. For 1¼″ to 2″ thickness, steel rod anchors of ¼″ diameter are used and for heavier thicknesses 1¼″ x ¼″ steel strap anchors should be used.

For panels up to 20 sq. ft. two anchors are provided in each side adjoining the piers. They are located approximately 6″ down from the top and 8″ up from the bottom.

Drilled holes for anchors are provided in the edges of the panels and rough holes must be provided in the masonry backing to accommodate the other end of the anchors. These holes are then filled with cement mortar, the anchors are inserted into the panel which is then plumbed into position forcing the other ends of the anchors into the cement-filled holes in the backing.

The panel is held in place by means of wood wedges along the sides until the cement has set. This same procedure can be followed for rod anchors, but strap anchored panels are generally built up with the brickwork, although this is not always necessary.

When panels are being installed, the back of the stone should be spotted with cement or plaster of paris approximately every 18 to 24 inches. These spots, together with the anchors, hold the spandrels securely in place.

We do not recommend grouting the entire space between the back of stone and face of masonry.

When these stones are used for the facing of buildings the usual and most economical thickness is ⅞″ and when the architect wishes to conceal the thickness of the material, a quirk miter joint is provided at the corners.

Where stones are used for moldings and circular work, it is necessary to use heavier thicknesses, depending on the design. For anchoring this kind of work, the same type of anchor and back spotting described for spandrels is used. Each stone should be secured to backing at four points.

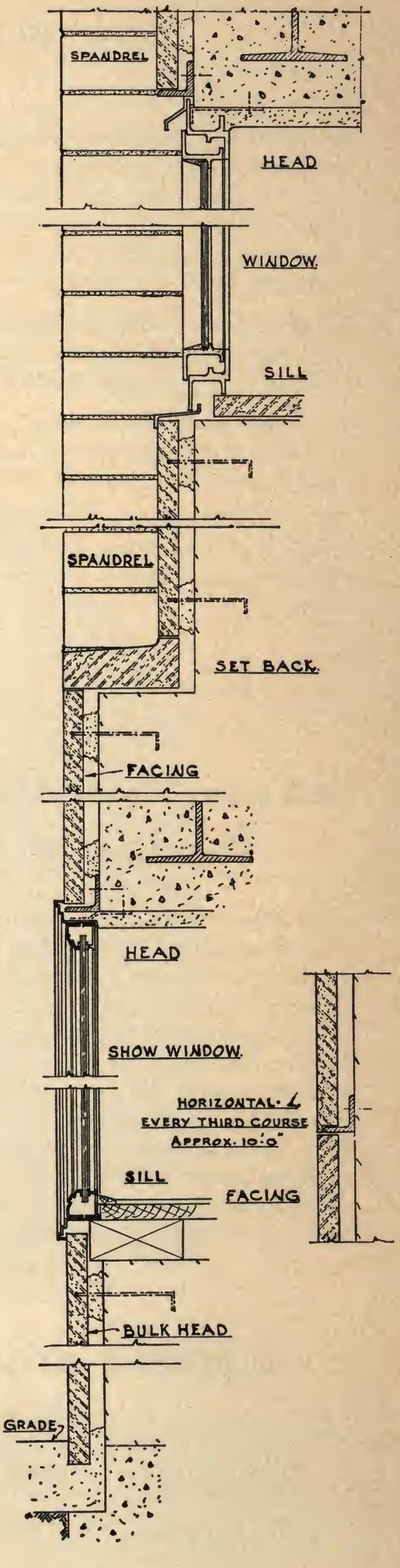
Where stone for facing extends more than ten feet in height, additional support to that described above should be provided. This is accomplished by securely attaching a steel angle to the masonry backing so that one leg projects through a horizontal joint in the facing supporting the facing above. This should be repeated for greater height.

Stone for bulkheads is anchored as described above. We recommend that the stone be housed at least one inch below the sidewalk and if so, the two lower anchors may be omitted.

Window sills are either built into the masonry or are slipped into place after completion of the masonry. Anchoring is not required for the first type. Slip sills are generally anchored with wire hooks, one at each end or two on the underside.

All joints should be pointed with an elastic or plastic caulking compound manufactured for this purpose, whose color will match the stone. There are several manufacturers who make this kind of material.

After completion, cleaning should be done with soap and water or with gasoline. Under no circumstances use acid. Use great care that acid used in cleaning adjoining materials does not come in contact with the stone. The metal polishes used for cleaning brass or bronze grilles and frames are destructive to stone finishes.



Alberene Stone Laboratory Equipment

Alberene Stone is recognized as the standard material for laboratory table tops, shelving, sinks, splash backs, drainboards, fume hoods and related equipment. For laboratory catalog see Sweets File Index, or write us.

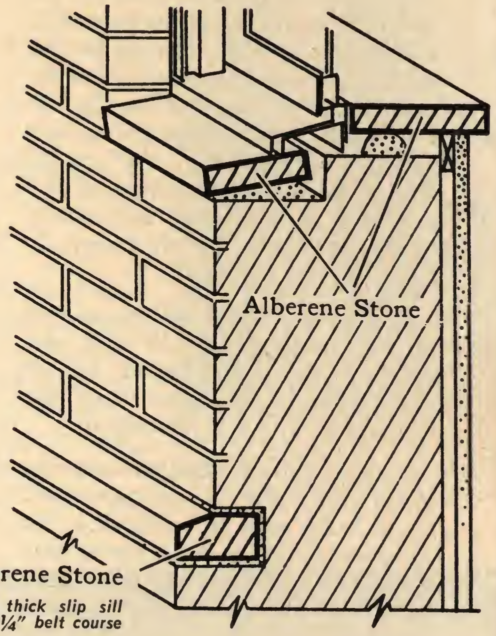
ALBERENE SOAPSTONE and SERPENTINE FOR WINDOW SILLS and STOOLS

Both Alberene Soapstone and Alberene Serpentine are ideally suited for window sills and stools. Both stones are weather-resistant and free of maintenance cost. They have no cleavage planes, are dense, non-absorbent, and chemically-resistant. Color of Regular Grade is silver gray in rubbed finish and a pleasing blue gray when honed—harmonizes well with almost any color scheme.

Where a darker color is desired, we suggest Alberene Serpentine. It is a somewhat darker gray in rubbed finish, blue black when honed, and black with a slight greenish cast when polished.

The high chemical resistance of both stones, which has made this type of stone the favorite for use in laboratory equipment, also makes them ideal for *window stools* in laboratory and hospital buildings.

Since there is a decided difference in price between Alberene *Regular Grade* and *Serpentine,* architects' specifications should be carefully worded so as to clearly call for the type desired.



Detail showing 1½" thick slip sill with 1¼" stool and 2¼" belt course

Alberene Stone Stair Treads and Landings

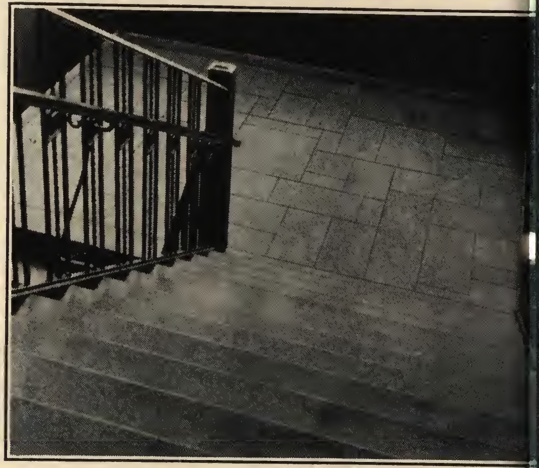
STANDARD SPECIFICATIONS

Alberene Stone (Soapstone) shall be a natural rock, blue-gray in color, of massive formation, without lamination, stratification or cleavage planes. In structure it shall be homogeneous, except for possible veining and shall be finely granular in all directions. It shall have a minimum abrasive hardness factor of 18 as determined by methods adopted by the National Bureau of Standards.

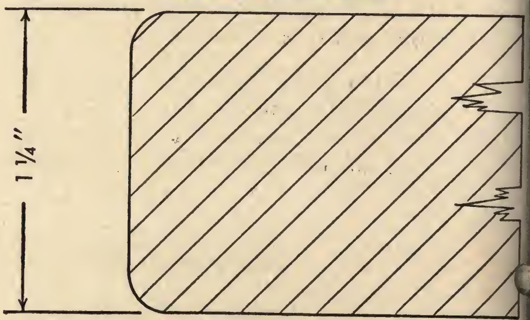
Treads and platforms (or landing treads at platforms and floor levels) shall be 1¼" thick and furnished with arris broken top and bottom front edges. Platforms and landings shall be ⅞" thick, made up with a border and tile field, with a tile size not exceeding 2 square feet in area per piece.

All stone shall be neatly bedded in cement mortar.

Attractive stairway and landing in an elementary school—stair treads and flooring are of Alberene Stone



ARRIS BROKEN TO ± 1/16" RADIUS-FRONT TOP and BOTTOM EDGE



Detail of Nosing

**ALBERENE STONE CORPORATION
OF VIRGINIA**

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Quarries and Mills at Schuyler, Virginia

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